

July 22, 2011

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) offered, and the House of Representative approved, an amendment to H.R. 2551, The Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, to restore \$1 million in funding for the "Thirty-Year Mass De-acidification Program" at the Library of Congress (LOC). The Program preserves the millions of pieces of American history stored in the LOC, and is one of the main components of the LOC's preservation project.

"This is a common sense amendment that will help preserve and protect millions of irreplaceable documents at the Library of Congress," Congressman Altmire said. "The cuts to the de-acidification program were disproportionate to the overall cuts at the Library of Congress and would have lengthened the preservation program by at least 20 years, while books continued to age and decay. This important program will ensure that records of America's history remain accessible for future generations, a central mission of the Library of Congress."

The amendment, which restores \$1 million in funding for the Program within the Library of Congress, reallocates funding and does not increase overall spending. The Library's de-acidification program began in 1995.